

Remarks

Claims 1-18 were pending. Claim 1 has been amended and new claims 19-30 have been added, antecedent basis for the amendment being found throughout the specification, e.g., on pages 4-5 (silanes), page 6 (silane concentrations), pages 6-7 (cationic initiators), pages 8-9 (monomers and initiators), page 9 (volatile solvents) and the Examples (blending and UV cure). Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1-30 will be pending and in condition for allowance.

The rejection under Section 112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed for the reasons provided previously. In order to facilitate the prosecution of this application, Applicant has editorially amended claim 1 to confirm that both the hydrolyzed and unhydrolyzed silanes are *separately prepared* in order to then be blended in the desired amounts to form the claimed composition. As described previously, while the “hydrolysis product” of a silane can certainly include molecules that may be *partially* hydrolyzed (depending on the mole ratio of water to alkoxy groups), an *unhydrolyzed* silane of the sort claimed is clearly one that needs to be prepared and used in the *absence* of water, and hence is clearly a separate and distinct form.

The remaining rejection under Section 103(a) is respectfully traversed. The Examiner’s withdrawal of the previous rejections is appreciated. Since the rejection appears to be based almost entirely on the same distinction between partially hydrolyzed and “unhydrolyzed”, the rejection should be rendered moot by the clarifying amendment and remarks above.

To the extent any further distinctions are required, the Examiner is encouraged to review Applicant’s previous remarks, which explain the manner in which Funaki fails to teach either the inclusion of monomers, or their polymerization, in the manner presently provided, and instead is concerned only with the use of already formed polymers. Just as significantly, the claims have

also been editorially amended to confirm that the present composition is *photocurable*, and hence, can be cured by UV radiation, as compared to the *thermal cure* as clearly required by Funaki.

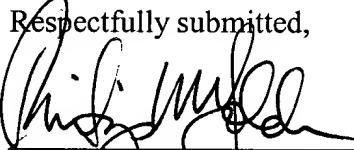
Applicant's past remarks also provide ample foundation for the "unexpected results" sought by the Examiner, including the manner in which the present monomers are able to penetrate the surface of a lens in a manner that polymers cannot, and in so doing, to provide tenacious attachment of the resultant cured composition. See, for instance, page 8 lines 3 to 6 of the specification.

In view of the above remarks, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections is respectfully requested.

Dated: 24 MAR 2003



Respectfully submitted,

  
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